

Rural Telephones in Union County.

In last week's Progressive Farmer, we promised to republish within a week or two the letter we had last year from Mr. J. Z. Green, of Marshville, regarding the rural telephone system of Union County. The letter follows:

"Marshville, N. C., July 30, 1902.

"Mr. Clarence H. Poe, Editor The Progressive Farmer, Raleigh, N. C.

"Dear Sir:—I note with pleasure your editorial in last issue of The Progressive Farmer in favor of telephones in the rural districts, and hasten to reply to your inquiry for further information regarding the extension of the system in Union, the cost, etc. Until a few years ago one concern had a patent on the telephone and no one could secure this convenience, even in towns and cities, except at an enormous cost in the way of rents. But since the time of the patent has expired, telephone factories have sprung up rapidly all over the country, and yet some factories can not supply the demand for 'phones and are frequently several weeks behind with their orders. Now, instead of one concern owning the telephone system, there are independent companies in almost every town. The principal towns and cities of this State are connected by 'phone, and all that is necessary for farmers to be connected and on "speaking terms" with the outside world, so to speak, is to have a line connected with a town or city exchange direct or if the distance is over three or four miles, form a neighborhood telephone company, put in a switchboard, connect this with a town exchange or with some other neighborhood exchange which has connection with the town exchange—anyway to get there the cheapest for good service.

"The cost of establishing the telephone system in the country varies with conditions, but under no conditions have we ever known a farmer in this county (Union), after having had the use of a 'phone in his house to entertain for a moment any idea of abandoning its use on account of the expense, and even many renters, who do not own the land they cultivate, have 'phones in their houses and can talk to persons in any part of the county or neighboring counties.

"The first thing needed to establish a neighborhood exchange is to get a switchboard and locate where all who are interested can reach it with the least amount of wire. A switchboard of from 10 to 25 drops costs from \$65 to \$100, according to style and make. Each line connected with the board uses one drop, or number, but several 'phones can be operated on one line and if the bridging 'phones are used a half dozen or a dozen 'phones can be successfully used on a line. Party lines are, however, more satisfactory if limited to three 'phones. The cost of running a telephone line, outside of the poles, is about \$6.50. This includes cost of No. 12 wire, insulators and brackets or pins. Either cedar or oak poles can be used and farmers can get

these with their own labor. They should be placed two and a half or three feet in the ground, about 60 yards apart, and along a road, or across fields—anyway to get to the "central" the easiest and quickest way. Good telephones cost about \$10. Add this to the cost of line per mile and you have an estimate of what it will cost to establish the service. In this county instead of forming neighborhood companies, some farmer in a neighborhood buys a switchboard, connects it with the town and then allows his neighbors to build lines to it and gives them connection at \$1.00 per month for each line. So if three farmers go in together and build a line they get the service at 33 1-3 cents each per month. The owner of the board furnishes the operator to give connection and any bright child can attend to a neighborhood exchange.

"You can do no better than to urge upon farmers the importance of establishing the rural telephone system. The telephone is an invention that is destined to revolutionize things in favor of farm life, rendering it less isolated and placing it in touch with the busy world. It saves time and money, affords social pleasure and protection for the family. It protects them from a delayed visit from the doctor in cases of emergency and it protects, or will to an extent protect them from criminals. No sane man will commit a heinous crime in a section or county where there is a network of wires all over the country, making it almost impossible to escape without being apprehended. But it is not the purpose of this article to discuss the advantages of the system, but to give some of the details as to plan of operation and cost. All that is needed is to get farmers interested enough to act and when one neighborhood establishes the telephone system it doesn't take long to get others to follow, for the rural telephone fever is very 'catching.'

"J. Z. GREEN."

Wood's Seeds.**Seed Potatoes for Late Planting.**

Our customers say that WOOD'S COLD STORAGE SEED POTATOES have solved the problem—How to secure a bountiful supply of potatoes all through the year. Our special circular about Cold Storage Seed Potatoes gives full information. Write for it.

SOW COW PEAS

to follow your grain crops. They can be satisfactorily seeded all through July. Not necessary to re-plow grain fields for Cow Peas; run cutaway or sharp-toothed harrow over the fields, and it will give sufficient preparation and make a most satisfactory crop. Write for prices and special circular.

T. W. Wood & Sons,
SEEDSMEN,
Richmond, : : : Virginia.

When writing advertisers, please mention this paper.

SOUTHERN DENTAL COLLEGE, ATLANTA, GEORGIA.

If you are interested in obtaining a dental education, write for free catalogue of full instruction.

Address DR. S. W. FOSTER, DEAN, 100 NORTH BUTLER STREET, ATLANTA, GEORGIA.

FOR SALE

One young Jack 18 months old, black with white points; 52-inches high; nice, clean, limbs. Will make a very fine Jack. Price, \$125.00. 13 Berkshire gilts, 8 months old, \$15.00 each. One Berkshire Boar, 8 months old. Big bones well marked, good length. Ready for service. Price, \$20.00. Three grade Poland China gilts, 10 months old, bred to Berkshire Boar, due to farrow about October 1st. Price, \$20.00 each. All the above nice, thrifty stock, and in good growing condition. Also 3 Berkshire pigs, 2 sows and a boar sired by Highclere Star, 3d dam Adelaide Lee, no better breeding anywhere. Price, \$10.00 each. Ready for delivery September 1.

MAPLE GROVE STOCK FARM,

W. J. SHUFORD,

Hickory, N. C.

**The Acme Peanut Roaster.**

There is more money for the retailer in the Acme Peanut Roaster than in any other invention made in the last fifty years : : :

EASIEST. CHEAPEST. NEATEST. COMPLETEST.

NO TIME. NO LABOR. NO ATTENTION. NO EXPENSE.

PERFECTLY AUTOMATIC. PRICE \$17.50 DELIVERED.

... FOR SALE BY ...

General Agents for N. and S. Carolina. **D. L. Gore Co.,** WHOLESALE GROCERS...
118, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124 and 125 N. Water Street, WILMINGTON, N. C.

Every Farmer in North Carolina SHOULD SUBSCRIBE FOR THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

From now until July 1, 1903, every Subscriber whose name is now on the subscription list is requested to see his neighbors, and secure their subscription.

Every subscriber sending in new subscriptions under this proposition will receive credit for same on his or her subscription account as follows:

For one new subscriber and \$1.00, 3 months.

For two new subscribers and \$2.00, 6 months.

For three new subscribers and \$3.00, 12 months.

Let every one try his hand. All together now and the thing is done. Samples sent if desired. Drop us a list of names. Address

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER,

RALEIGH, N. C.

BIG 8 Chain of 8 Colleges owned by business men and endorsed by business men. Fourteen Cashiers of Banks are on our Board of Directors. Our diploma means something. Enter any time. Positions secured.

Draughon's Practical Business Colleges.
(Incorporated, Capital Stock \$300,000.00.)

Nashville, Tenn. U Atlanta, Ga.
Ft. Worth, Texas, S Montgomery, Ala.
St. Louis, Mo. A Galveston, Texas,
Little Rock, Ark. A Shreveport, La.

For 150 page catalogue address either place. If you prefer, may pay tuition out of salary after course is completed. Guarantee graduates to be competent or no charges for tuition. HOME STUDY: Bookkeeping, Shorthand, Penmanship, etc., taught by mail. Write for 100 page BOOKLET on Home Study. It's free.

We promptly obtain U. S. and Foreign

PATENTS

Send model, sketch or photo of invention for free report on patentability. For free book, How to Secure TRADE-MARKS write to

CASNOW & Co.

OPPOSITE U. S. PATENT OFFICE. WASHINGTON, D. C.